

D-212  
B. E. Harrington & Company Store  
Taylor's Island  
1917  
Private

The former Benjamin E. Harrington & Company store building is one of the dominant historic structures to define the entrance to Taylor's Island once across the bridge that spans Slaughter Creek. The two-story rectangular frame commercial block retains its historic first floor storefront with a recessed entrance and large glass display windows. Stretching across the full front of the building is a wide shed roofed awning supported on heavy triangular braces. The interior retains its early twentieth century character with vertical tongue-and-groove board walls and ceiling as well as sections of store shelving.

Benjamin E. Harrington owned and operated a store on either side of Taylor's Island Road between the mid 1890s and his death in 1930, when his son, Byron E. Harrington assumed control of the business. According to a newspaper article written when Harrington family ownership was ending in 1960, the two-story commercial block was built in 1917 following a fire that destroyed the older store that stood on the south side of the road. At the death of Benjamin E. Harrington in 1930, his wife, Fannie, conveyed her ownership in the property to her son.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. D-212

### 1. Name of Property

(indicate preferred name)

historic B. E. Harrington & Company Store  
other Island Grill

### 2. Location

street and number 514 Taylor's Island Road not for publication  
city, town Taylor's Island vicinity  
county Dorchester

### 3. Owner of Property

(give names and mailing addresses of all owner)

name Charles William Wright  
street and number P. O. Box 201 telephone  
city, town Taylor's Island state MD zip code 21669-0201

### 4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Dorchester County Clerk of Court liber DLP 1003 folio 405  
city, town Cambridge tax map 58 tax parcel 8 tax ID number 059344

### 5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District  
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District  
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register  
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register  
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER  
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT  
☐ Other:

### 6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> structures
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	<input type="checkbox"/> Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	
		<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion	
		<input type="checkbox"/> social	
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory

## 7. Description

Inventory No. D-212

### Condition

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

### DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

The Island Grill, historically known as the B. E. Harrington & Company store, stands at 514 Taylor's Island Road on the eastern side of the island not far from the bridge that crosses Slaughter Creek. The two-story rectangular frame commercial building, erected in 1917, is sheathed with vinyl siding, and a parapet front wall disguises a long sloping shed roof that descends in height. The store faces south. The south façade retains an early twentieth century first floor front with a recessed entrance flanked by large glass display windows supported by low knee walls of vertical, v-grooved tongue-and-groove boards. The old storefront display windows define two-thirds of the main elevation, while the western third is a separate storefront. Stretching across the entire first floor front is a shed roofed awning supported on large triangular brackets. The interior retains v-groove tongue-and-groove board walls and ceiling in addition to early twentieth century store shelving.

### GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The old Benjamin E. Harrington & Company store, built in 1917, stands on the north side of Taylor's Island Road within a few hundred yards of the western foot of the Slaughter Creek bridge, and the north side of the property borders Chapel Cove. Located at 514 Taylor's Island Road, the two-story, rectangular frame commercial block is covered with vinyl siding. The two-story front parapet wall disguises a low pitched shed roof that descends in height to the rear with a stepped parapet. An early to mid twentieth century wing extends the old store building to the east.

The south (main) façade is a two-story commercial elevation with the eastern two-thirds of the wall surface defined by a recessed entrance with flanking display windows resting on a low knee wall faced with vertical, v-groove, tongue-and-groove boards. The other third of the south wall to the west of the storefront is a separate commercial bay with its own entrance. The entire first floor commercial front is sheltered by a shed roofed awning supported on large, triangular shaped brackets. Fixed above the shed roofed awning is a row of transom-like windows under a pent eave. The pent eave was formerly enhanced with small brackets which were removed when the building was sided.

The interior is finished with v-groove tongue-and-groove boards that cover the walls and ceiling, and the sides of the principal room retain early twentieth century shelving. Fixed in the southeast corner is a metal circular staircase. The store interior has been adapted as a restaurant.

## 8. Significance

Inventory No. D-212

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history	
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/	<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____	

Specific dates

Architect/Builder

Construction dates 1917

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register

☐ Maryland Register

☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

### SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY

The old Benjamin E. Harrington & Company store building is one of the dominant historic buildings that defines the entrance to Taylor's Island once across the bridge that spans Slaughter Creek. Reported to have been built in 1917 following a fire that destroyed a Harrington family owned store across the road, the two-story rectangular frame commercial block retains its historic first store storefront with a recessed entrance and large glass display windows. Stretching across the full front of the commercial block is a wide shed roofed awning supported on heavy triangular-shaped brackets. The interior retains its early twentieth century character with vertical tongue-and-groove board walls and ceiling as well as sections of shelving.

### HISTORY AND SUPPORT

Benjamin E. Harrington owned and operated a store on either side of Taylor's Island Road between the mid 1890s and his death in 1930, when his son, Byron E. Harrington assumed control of the business. According to a newspaper article written in 1960, the two-story commercial block was built in 1917 following a fire that destroyed an older store and house which stood on the south side of the road. At the death of Benjamin E. Harrington in 1930, his wife, Fannie, conveyed her ownership interest in the property to her son Byron.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Dorchester County Land Record, JFD 27/46, 3.31.1956, Dorchester County Courthouse.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. D-212

Name B. E. Harrington & Company Store  
**Continuation Sheet**

Number 8 Page 1

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Taylor's Island Store (Island Grill)  
B. E. Harrington & Company Store  
514 Taylor's Island Road  
Taylor's Island Dorchester County, Maryland

Map 59, Parcel 8

86/401

Emerson C. Harrington Jr. and V. Calvin Trice, Trustees

to

8.27.1953

The B. E. Harrington Company, Inc.

\$8,000 Parcel No. 1 and Parcel No. 2

Parcel No. 1

All that lot of land situated on the north side of said road, together with the storehouses and outbuildings thereon, the land and buildings being owned by the late Benjamin E. Harrington, at the time of his death, intestate, and which passed to his widow, Fannie T. Harrington, and his son, the said Byron E. Harrington, the interest of the said Fannie T. Harrington was conveyed to her son, the said Byron E. Harrington, by deed dated the 15<sup>th</sup> day of March, 1931, JFD 27/46, which said lot contains 5 acres, more or less, bounded on the northward by Slaughter Creek, on the eastward by a ditch and the land conveyed by the said Trustees to White & Nelson, by deed dated the 5.24.1951, the line of division is the said ditch running from the county road,....and the lot is bounded on the south by the county road leading from the westward by the land of J. Stapleforte Neild and Mary R. Neild, conveyed to them by Edwin R. Dashiell and Geneva M. Dashiell, dated April 28, 1939, and recorded in RSM 39/241.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. D-212

Dorchester County Land Records, various volumes, Dorchester County Courthouse  
Newspaper clipping dated 5.25.1960, Taylor's Island file, Dorchester County Historical Society, Dorchester County Library.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 113,256 square feet  
Acreage of historical setting ½ acre  
Quadrangle name Taylor's Island, MD

Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

### Verbal boundary description and justification

The metes and bounds of this property are coincidental with the current boundary of the lot.

## 11. Form Prepared by

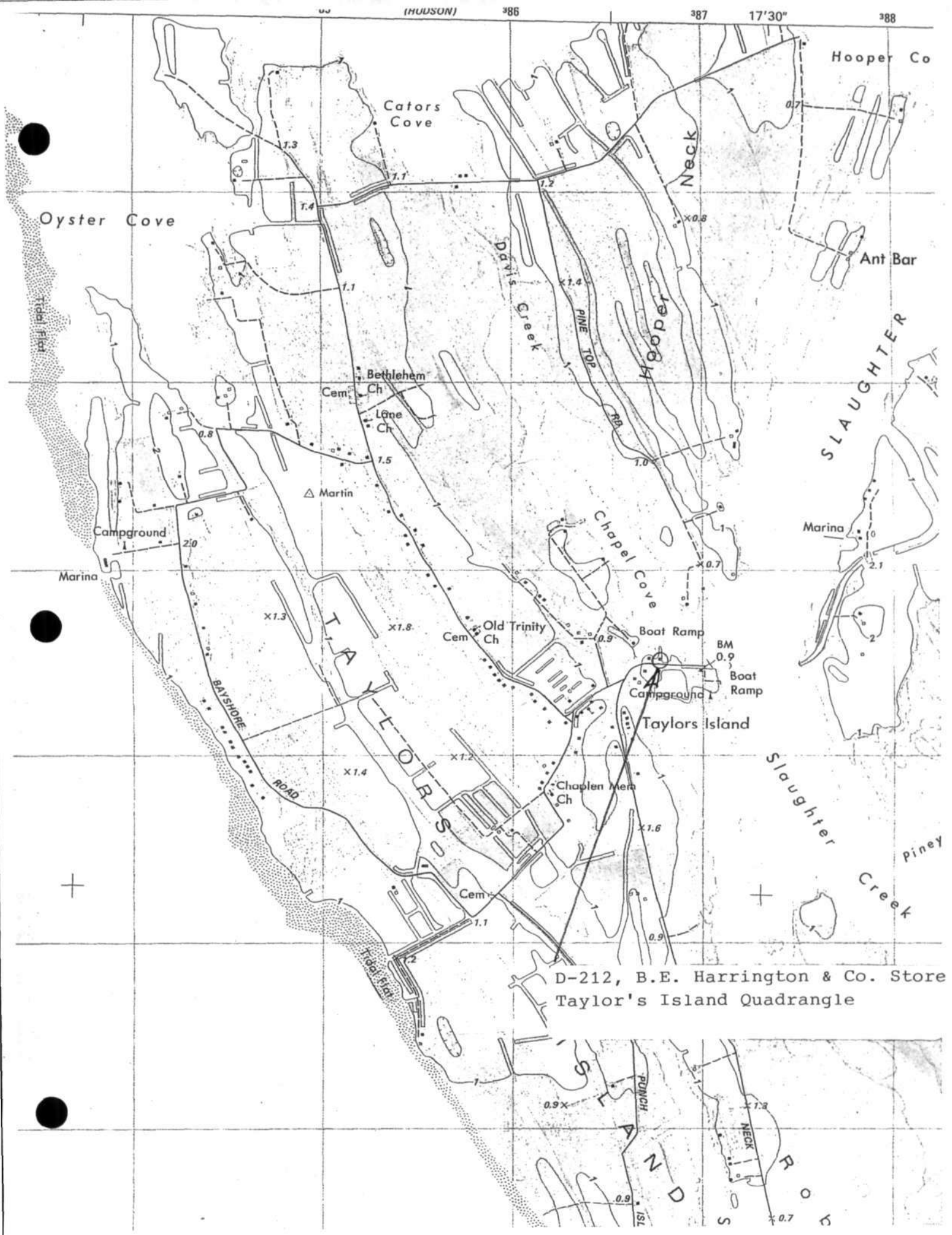
name/title	Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian		
organization	Chesapeake Country Heritage & Preservation	date	11/18/2010
street & number	Cedar Hill, P. O. Box 5	telephone	410-651-1094
city or town	Westover	state	Maryland 21871

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
DHCD/DHCP  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023  
410-514-7600





D-212, B.E. Harrington & Co. Store  
Taylor's Island Quadrangle





D-212

B. E. HARRINGTON & CO. STONE  
TAYLOR'S ISLAND, DOCKHURSTON Co.  
MD.

SOUTH ELEVATION

11. 2010, PAUL B. TOWANT, PHOTOGR.  
W. 1 MD HISTORICAL TRUST

1 of 2



D-212

B. E. HARRINGTON & Co. Stone  
TAYLOR'S ISLAND, DORCHESTER  
Co., MD.

SOUTHWEST ELEVATION

11.2010, Paul B. Tourant, PITOVU.

W&A/MD. HISTORICAL TRAIL

2 of 2

D-212  
1002124711

Form 10-300  
(Dec. 1968)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

N. R. FIELD SHEET

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE:	
COUNTY:	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME

COMMON:

Taylor's Island Store

AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION

STREET AND NUMBER:

Rt. 16, Taylor's Island Road

CITY OR TOWN:

Taylor's Island

STATE

Maryland

CODE

COUNTY:

Dorchester

CODE

3. CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
District <input type="checkbox"/> Building <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Public <input type="checkbox"/> Public Acquisition:	Occupied <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/>	Private <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/>	Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/>	Restricted <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Object <input type="checkbox"/>	Both <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered <input type="checkbox"/>	Preservation work in progress <input type="checkbox"/>	Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/>
			No: <input type="checkbox"/>

PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/>	Government <input type="checkbox"/>	Park <input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation <input type="checkbox"/>	Comments <input type="checkbox"/>
Commercial <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Industrial <input type="checkbox"/>	Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/>	Other (Specify) <input type="checkbox"/>	
Educational <input type="checkbox"/>	Military <input type="checkbox"/>	Religious <input type="checkbox"/>		
Entertainment <input type="checkbox"/>	Museum <input type="checkbox"/>	Scientific <input type="checkbox"/>		

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY

OWNERS NAME:

Charles W. Wright

STREET AND NUMBER:

555 Rutherford Drive

CITY OR TOWN:

Springfield

STATE:

Pa.

CODE

19064

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC:

Dorchester County Courthouse

STREET AND NUMBER:

High Street

CITY OR TOWN:

Cambridge

STATE

Maryland

CODE

21613

ACREAGE

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: Deed Ref: 140/366

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE OF SURVEY:

DATE OF SURVEY:

Federal ☐ State ☐ County ☐ Local ☐

DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS:

STREET AND NUMBER:

CITY OR TOWN:

STATE:

CODE

STATE:

COUNTY:

ENTRY NUMBER

DATE

FOR NPS USE ONLY

## 7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	Excellent <input type="checkbox"/>	Good <input type="checkbox"/>	Fair <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Deteriorated <input type="checkbox"/>	Ruins <input type="checkbox"/>	Unexposed <input type="checkbox"/>
INTEGRITY	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	Altered <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered <input type="checkbox"/>			Moved <input type="checkbox"/> Original Site <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (if known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Taylor's Island Store is about the same date as the Carpenters home, closeby and is also a rapidly disappearing type of structure. It is a boxy rectangular building constructed of frame and now covered with asphalt shingle. The sides of the building have small six-pane windows at clerestory level and the top of the wall is stepped, indicating the slant of the nearly flat roof. The store's facade is composed of four bays, the western bay being a seperate entrance, and the three eastern bays being symmetrically arranged with plate glass store windows and the entrance set back from the facade. Above the windows is a transom, above which is an awning roof, and above that, another row of windows being the clerestory. A bracketed cornice with hood above is located above the clerestory. The awning is supported on stick style brackets extending from the posts between the bays.

Inside, the west side of the building was probably used as a post office and storage. The rest is a large room with original counter, shelves, and a pressed tin ceiling.

## 8. SIGNIFICANCE

## PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Pre-Columbian ☐16th Century ☐18th Century ☐20th Century ☒15th Century ☐17th Century ☐19th Century ☐

## SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known)

## AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal

Education ☐Political ☐Urban Planning ☐Prehistoric ☐Engineering ☐

Religion/Phi-

Other (Specify) ☐Historic ☐Industry ☐losophy ☐Agriculture ☐Invention ☐Science ☐Art ☐

Landscape

Sculpture ☐Commerce ☒Architecture ☐

Social/Human-

Communications ☐Literature ☐itarian ☐Conservation ☐Military ☐Theater ☐Architecture ☒Music ☐Transportation ☐

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

Few early stores remain intact, but this early 20th century store is an attractive element from the not-to-distant past and has changed little over the years.



## 9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

## 10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY			O R	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN ONE ACRE		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUDE		LATITUDE	LONGITUDE	
	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds		Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes Seconds	
NW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
NE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SE	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	
SW	° ' "	° ' "		° ' "	° ' "	

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE: Acreage	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
Justification:			
STATE: <del>***</del>	***	COUNTY:	CODE
District 4, Map 59, p. 8			
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

## 11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE:		
Michael Bourne, Architectural Consultant		
ORGANIZATION	DATE	
Maryland Historical Trust	Spring, 1975	
STREET AND NUMBER:		
Shaw House, 21 State Circle		
CITY OR TOWN:	STATE	CODE
Annapolis	Maryland	21401

## 12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

## NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☐ State ☐ Local ☐

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

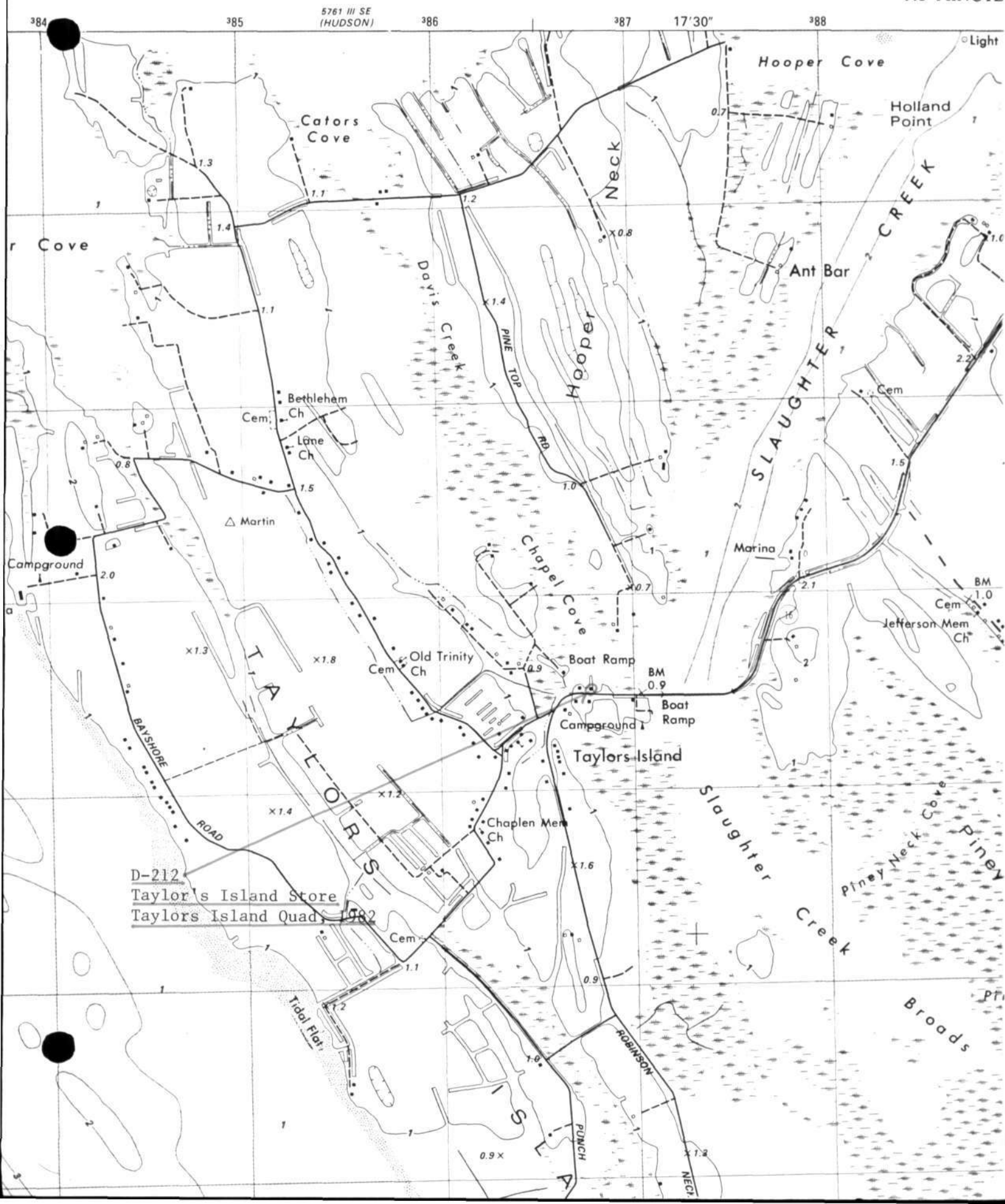
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date \_\_\_\_\_

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Keeper of The National Register

Date \_\_\_\_\_



13X1-56

75% D-212



Taylor's Island Stone

D-212

M. Bourne Spring 1975